

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Canceled).
3. (Canceled).
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Canceled).
7. (Canceled).
8. (Canceled).
9. (Canceled).
10. (Canceled).
11. (Canceled).
12. (Canceled).
13. (Canceled).
14. (Canceled).
15. (Canceled).
16. (Canceled).
17. (Canceled).
18. (Canceled).
19. (Canceled).
20. (Canceled).
21. (Canceled).
22. (Canceled).
23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).

25. (Canceled).

26. (Canceled).

27. (Canceled).

28. (Canceled).

29. (Canceled).

30. (Canceled).

31. (Canceled).

32. (Canceled).

33. (Canceled).

34. (Canceled).

35. (Canceled).

36. (Canceled).

37. (Currently amended) A weatherseal for releasably contacting a panel, comprising:

(a) a substrate; and

(b) a contact layer on at least a portion of the substrate, the contact layer including a thermoset carrier and a multitude of UHMW polyethylene particles having a polar functional group, the UHMW polyethylene particles having a size greater than between approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns and chemically bonded to the thermoset carrier to form surface projections having a size corresponding to the particle size.

38. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 37, wherein the thermoset carrier includes cross-linked urethane.

39. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 37, wherein the substrate includes an EPDM.

40. (Currently amended) A weatherseal, comprising:

(a) a substrate; and

(b) a contact layer on the substrate, the contact layer including surface projection forming surface treated UHMW polyolefin particles having a permanently imparted polar functional group, the particles having a size between greater than approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns in a cross linked urethane based carrier.

41. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 40, wherein the UHMW polyolefin particles are cross-linked.

42. (Currently amended) A weatherseal contact layer having a multitude of surface projections, comprising a multitude of coefficient of friction reducing projection forming surface treated thermoplastic particles bonded to a cured thermoset carrier, a plurality of the thermoplastic particles having a size greater than between approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns, and a permanently imparted polar functional group.

43. (Previously presented) The contact layer of Claim 42, wherein the thermoplastic particles are an ultra high molecular weight olefin.

44. (Previously presented) The contact layer of Claim 42, wherein the thermoplastic particles are surface treated UHMW polyethylene.

45. (Previously presented) The contact layer of Claim 42, wherein the thermoset carrier includes urethane.

46. (Previously presented) The contact layer of Claim 42, wherein the thermoplastic particles have a melting temperature greater than a curing temperature of the thermoset carrier.

47. (Currently amended) A weatherseal, comprising:

(a) a substrate; and

(b) a contact layer on a portion of the substrate, the contact layer having a multitude of surface treated olefinic particles in a cured thermoset

urethane based carrier, the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles having a polar functional group and sized to create friction reducing surface projections in the contact layer, the particles having a size ~~of at least~~ between approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns, the surface projections having a size corresponding to the particles.

48. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the substrate includes an EPDM.

49. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are UHMW polyethylene.

50. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are chemically bonded to the cured thermoset urethane based carrier.

51. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are cross-linked.

52. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are sufficiently bonded to the cured thermoset urethane based carrier to preclude separation during use of the weatherseal.

53. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are encapsulated within the cured thermoset urethane based carrier.

54. (Cancelled).

55. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein a melting temperature of the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles is greater than a curing temperature of the urethane based carrier.

56. (Currently amended) A method of forming a weatherseal, comprising:

(a) forming a substrate;

(b) mixing a multitude of ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles having a polar functional group and a curable thermoset urethane based carrier, a plurality of the olefinic particles of a size ~~greater than~~ between approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns;

(c) disposing the mixed ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles and the curable thermoset urethane based carrier on a portion of the substrate; and

(d) curing the curable thermoset urethane based carrier as [[it is]] disposed on the substrate to retain discrete ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles and form surface projections having a size corresponding to the particle size.

57. (Currently amended) A weatherseal, comprising:

(a) a substrate; and

(b) a contact layer on a portion of the substrate, the contact layer including having ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles having a polar functional group and forming surface projections, the particles having a size ~~greater than~~ between approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns in a cured thermoset urethane based carrier, the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles having a melting temperature greater than a curing temperature of the urethane based carrier, and the surface projections having a size corresponding to the olefinic particles.

58. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein the substrate includes an EPDM.

59. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are UHMW polyethylene.

60. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are chemically bonded to the cured thermoset urethane based carrier.

61. (Canceled).

62. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are sufficiently bonded to the cured thermoset urethane based carrier to substantially preclude separation.

63. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein a plurality of the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are encapsulated within the cured thermoset urethane based carrier.

64. (Canceled).

65. (Currently amended) A weatherseal, comprising:

(a) a substrate; and

(b) a contact layer on a portion of the substrate, the contact layer having ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles with a polar functional group in a cured thermoset carrier, the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles forming surface projections, the particles having a melting temperature greater than a curing temperature of the thermoset carrier and a size between approximately 20 microns and approximately 200 microns, the surface projections having a size corresponding to the particle size.

66. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein the substrate includes an EPDM.

67. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are UHMW polyethylene.

68. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are chemically bonded to the cured thermoset carrier.

69. (Canceled).

70. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are sufficiently bonded to the cured thermoset carrier to substantially preclude separation.

71. (Currently amended) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein a plurality of the ~~surface-treated~~ olefinic particles are encapsulated within the cured thermoset carrier.

72. (Cancelled).

73. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 37, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic.

74. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 37, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

75. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 40, wherein the substrate includes an EPDM.

76. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 40, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic.

77. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 40, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

78. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic.

79. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

80. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic.

81. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 57, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

82. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic.

83. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 65, wherein the substrate includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

84. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 37, wherein substantially all the particles have a size greater than 20 microns.

85. (Previously presented) The weatherseal of Claim 47, wherein substantially all the particles have a size greater than 20 microns.